



The Richmond Claddagh

APRIL 2013

<http://richmondias.org/>

The Richmond Irish American Society

[Click for the Calendar of Events](#)

**THANKS TO YOUR REQUESTS
A REPEAT PERFORMANCE
IAS MEETING – APRIL 20TH – 1:00**



THE TITANIC IRISH PASSENGERS TUCKAHOE LIBRARY.

2012 was the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. The ship was built in Belfast and its last port of call was Cobh. But, most stories about the Titanic barely mention Belfast or Queenstown (Cobh) or the profound effect that the disaster had on Ulster. Social conditions changed in Belfast after the sinking. Most of the Irish were 3rd class passengers - that's steerage. They were separated from 1st and 2nd class passengers and that impacted how they lived or died on that fateful night. We will not be talking about the 300 social elite aboard the Titanic. Please join us a bit early for some hospitality time prior to the start of the program. Thanks to Dan Begley for the repeat!

(The library is located 1901 Starling Drive Henrico, VA 23229 (804) 290-9100 Off Parham Rd. Click for directions - [Click for directions to library](#))

REALITY CHECK

This mock-up is a comparison photo of the original Titanic to one of today's luxury cruise ships - I know! Call me amazed.



TITANIC II

The Titanic II, a 21st-century replica of the doomed liner that sank in 1912 with the loss of 1,500 lives, is to take to the seas three years from now. Unlike the original however, it will not be built at the Harland and Wolff shipyards in Belfast, but will instead be constructed in Jiangsu in China in a dockyard, which holds a Guinness Book of Records title for launching heavy ships.

Australian billionaire Clive Palmer stated, "Back then, Belfast was at the pre-eminent edge of building ships. It is a sad fact today that they are not, and we don't want to compromise the designs, engineering and work that was carried out by many people in Ireland and England by building it at a yard which is not at the top level," he said.

So far 40,000 people have made inquiries about sailing onboard Titanic II, which will be finished by late 2016 and come complete with replicas of the first, second- and steerage-class berths.

"Titanic was a ship of dreams and Titanic II promises to be the ship where dreams come true," Titanic II will be finished by late 2016, he vowed, and 40,000 people have already inquired about booking first, second and steerage-class tickets for its first journey from Southampton to New York.

TITANIC II - 2016



The intended launch date is set in 2016 and the ship will set sail from Southampton to New York within the same year.

Hmmm - Are You Interested?

**YES!!! THERE ARE EVEN MORE APRIL
EVENTS!!!!**

APRIL 13TH – IAS PUB SUPPER

O’Toole’s 5:30 start **

<http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com/>

4800 Forest Hill Ave

Richmond, VA 23225

Pubmaster Jim Mahone takes us back to O’Toole’s for our April Pub Supper. ****PLEASE NOTE** - This month – in response to some member comments, Jim has set an earlier start time. So, you can come join us for supper and still get home before dark... (If you so choose.). But you can stay as long as you like.

This is a great way to meet other members, relax with like-minded folks and enjoy some really good Pub Grub at O’Toole’s. It’s also great to show support to O’Toole’s and their generosity in providing the back room at the restaurant for our IAS Board meetings. You can click on the O’Toole’s link for directions and their menu.

*****April 22nd – IAS BOARD MEETING*****

O’Toole’s 7pm

All members are **INVITED AND ENCOURAGED** to attend the Board meetings. We look for and **NEED** suggestions and input from our members. If you can’t come – call any of the Board members with your suggestions and ideas. Please help us keep the IAS growing and strong.

The St. Pat’s Festival -

Well, that was quite a weekend! In 2 days we had the wildest weather extremes, but we also had the lots of fun meeting new folks and telling them all about the IAS. In truth, Saturday was a beautiful day and the crowds were immense, but then Sunday opened with less promising results! Thanks are in order for our very hard working members who donated their time and efforts. Thanks to Karon Bell for organizing the Friday night set up, the volunteer roster and the tent take down on Sunday night. Many thanks also to Carmel Miney for again assembling the wonderful “Irish Gift Basket” that was raffled off at the close of this years Festival. And not in the least – we send HUGE thanks to all our volunteers – Ann McGehee, Kathryn O’Meara, Karen Ide, Kathy Donovan, Frank Hardy, Ray Gallagher, Bill Riddell, Mike Kane, Dan Begley, and very special thanks to Kerry Dermady & Dave Beugelsdyk – the world’s best IAS Raffle Ticket Sellers!

Plan to join us in the tent at an event in the future. We can NEVER have too many smiling Irish faces – helping to educate people on the IAS!

**Scots Irish Heritage Festival—
April 13th Lexington Va –**

Good friends of the Richmond IAS - John & Mary Jo Morman – owners of the “Celtic Tides” store in Lexington, VA – send along news on the upcoming festival in April.

The 7th Annual Lexington Scots Irish Heritage Festival will take place on April 13th. The festival will again be held at the Rockbridge County High School, from 10:00 am till 5:00 pm.

There will be vendors carrying a wide range of products, as well as traditional foods from the “Scottish Cottage”. The Lexington Lions Club will be serving hot dogs and hamburgers for those with more traditional tastes. Various Clans and Societies will be represented again for those wishing to take a closer look at their family history.

Musical entertainment provided by the VMI Pipe Band, Warpipe, and the Shenandoah Valley Pipes & Drums. Also performing will be Lexington's own Cranruach, and Mary Smith and Greg Kimball from Richmond.

The “stars” of the day will be the Celtic Martins from Pennsylvania. This very talented family will play and dance their way into everyone's hearts.

Heavy Athletics demonstrations, medieval re-enactors, and of course the very popular sheepdog demonstrations round out a terrific day for everyone. The “St. Baldrick’s” event is also part of the festival again this year. Participants are invited to have their heads shaved, or to sponsor “shavees”, while raising funds to combat children’s cancers.

Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children. All proceeds go to the Lexington Lions Club's Service Account, helping out local groups and individuals who need assistance. The Lions Club, Celtic Tides, VMI and Cornerstone Bank sponsor the Festival.

Sorry... I just loved this



(Dan Piraro)

The Beauty Queen of Leenane

Henley Street Theater
May 23 – June 15, 2013



SPARC Center for the Performing Arts
2106A N. Hamilton Street

Set in the west of Ireland, The Beauty Queen of Leenane is a twisted and comic tale of Maureen, a middle-aged spinster, who lives with her elderly and manipulative mother Mag. Maureen lives a lonely life, longing for romance that will spirit her away. When a chance comes along to find love and make a new life for herself, Maureen sees an opportunity to escape. However, Mag has other ideas and sets in motion a chain of betrayals, which bring the play to a terrifying conclusion.

“Beauty” is the winner of four Tony Awards, The Drama Desk Award, The Outer Critics Circle Award, and The Drama League Award

“McDonagh is the most wickedly funny, brilliantly abrasive young dramatist on either side of the Irish Sea...a born storyteller.” -New York Times

“Beauty Queen of Leenane” – A note from IAS Member – Carol Rasnic - Please mark your calendars Henley Street Theatre will perform “Beauty Queen of Leenane.” Set in the village of Leenane in Connemara, County Galway, this play is typically Irish with its simultaneous poignancy and sadness mingled with humor. (Remember the old proverb: “An Irishman has an abiding sense of tragedy which sustains him through temporary periods of joy.”)

I saw this play performed at Town Hall Theatre in Galway, where it was first performed. It had a long run on Broadway and is indeed superb.

Just a word about Leenane: This was the setting for the movie “The Field” with Richard Harris, the standard-setter for morbid films. On my first trip to Ireland in 1987, when my then-19-year-old niece was my roommate, we stayed one night in the Leenane Inn. The owner of this spooky three-story lodge was like a Celtic Norman Bates, and the footed bathtub was so high that had to use a chair to get in. There were eerily framed pictures throughout, including one of a corpse in a coffin. (I am not making this up, folks.) Need I explain why we stayed only one night? ☺ Enjoy! Carol

If YOU HAVE TO COOK - make it worthwhile ☺

Guinness Pulled Pork



Prep Time: 5 minutes, Cook Time: 10 hours, Yield: 8 Servings

Let your slow cooker and a bottle of Guinness do the work to create the tastiest fall-apart-on-your-fork pulled pork ever.

Ingredients

- 1 Tbsp. smoked paprika
- 2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. Freshly cracked black pepper
- 4 lb. boneless pork butt or shoulder or loin
- 1 large white onion, thinly sliced
- 1 (11.2) bottle Guinness extra-stout beer

In a small bowl, whisk together paprika, salt, crushed red pepper, garlic powder, and black pepper until combined. Rub the mixture all over the surface of the pork until covered.

Spread out the sliced onions over the bottom of the slow cooker. Then place the pork on top. And then pour the beer on top.

Cover and cook on low for 10-12 hours, or until the pork literally falls apart on your pork. Serve on sliders, tacos, salads, or however you would like!

Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to four days, or freeze.

<http://www.gimmesomeoven.com/guinness-pulled-pork/>

Hi Everybody!

Again, there is a membership application attached at the end of the newsletter. Please keep that sheet and pass it along to your friends, co-workers or folks you meet. We need your help to keep the IAS a viable organization to promote our Irish Heritage and give our local Richmond Irish an opportunity to meet. –

Also note the request for help on the IAS Board.

THE ROCK OF CASHEL



The **Rock of Cashel** is one of Ireland's most spectacular archaeological sites. The 'Rock' is a prominent green hill, banded with limestone outcrops. It rises from a grassy plain on the edge of the town and bristles with ancient fortifications – the word 'cashel' is an anglicized version of the Irish word *caiseal*, meaning 'fortress'. Sturdy walls circle an enclosure that contains a complete round tower, a 13th century Gothic cathedral and the finest 12th-century Romanesque chapel in Ireland. For more than 1000 years the Rock of Cashel was a symbol of power and the seat of kings and churchmen who ruled over the region. In the 4th century the Rock of Cashel was chosen as a base by the Eóghanachta clan from Wales, who went on to conquer much of Munster and become kings of the region. For some 400 years it rivaled Tara as a centre of power in Ireland. The clan was associated with St Patrick, hence the Rock's alternative name of St Patrick's Rock.

In the 10th century, the Eóghanachta lost possession of the rock to the O'Brien (or Dál gCais) tribe under Brian Ború's leadership. In 1101, King Muircheartach O'Brien presented the Rock to the Church, a move designed to curry favor with the powerful bishops and to end secular rivalry over possession of the Rock with the Eóghanachta, by now known as the MacCarthys. Numerous buildings must have occupied the Rock over the years, but it is the ecclesiastical relics that have survived even the depredations of the Cromwellian army in 1647.

Read more about Cashel by clicking on this link - <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/ireland/county-tipperary/cashel/sights/historic-site/rock-of-cashel#ixzz2OVea59xW>

THE ROUND TOWER OF GLENDALOUGH



The tower of Glendalough is considered by scholars to be the most finely constructed and beautiful tower in all Ireland. Situated in the cleft of a steep and thickly forested valley, the 30 meter tall tower is built of mica schist with a granite doorway. Glendalough, the ancient gathering place of pre-Christian hermits and the first Christian monastery was established by St. Kevin who lived in the enchanted valley from 498-618 AD. Clustered about the base of the tower are remains of a 1200-year-old cathedral and the first functioning university in the western world. Nearby the tower is the healing cross of St. Kevin.

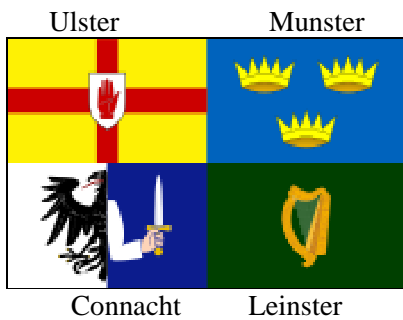
A local legend states that if one encircles the cross with one's arms and makes a wish concerned with healing, that wish will be fulfilled according to the depth of one's love of God.



Hugging the miraculous healing cross at Glendalough, Ireland

DID YOU KNOW THIS? Certainly one of Ireland's most prolific inventors, John Joly was responsible for the thermometer for measuring the melting points of minerals, the steam calorimeter for measuring specific heats, and the photometer for measuring light intensity and use of radiation for cancer treatment. What he is also known for however is the invention of color photography. In 1894 this Irish genius from Hollywood, County Offaly found a successful way of producing color photographs from a single plate. He changed the way we see the world. (And that is most appreciated by every tourist in Ireland!!!)

The Flag of the Four Provinces



(From www.OurIreland.com)

When under Gaelic rule, Ireland was divided into **provinces** to replace the earlier system of the túatha. Túatha was the basic territorial unit of early Irish society. Dinneen's dictionary (1927) of Modern Irish reports that it now loosely means: 'a people or folk, the laity; the country (as opposed to city or town), a tract of land, territory, region'.

The Capitals and population levels of the Four Provinces – per the 2011 census

Province	Population	Capital
Leinster	2,504,814	Dublin
Munster	1,246,088	Cork
Connacht	542,547	Galway
Ulster	2,106,298 ±	Belfast

Note: ± indicates that the population for Ulster is the sum of the 2011 census results for counties of Ulster in Republic of Ireland and the 2011 estimated population for Northern Ireland.



County Clare (Contae an Chláir in Irish) is in the Irish province of Munster. It is located on the west coast of Ireland, northwest of the River Shannon and bordering Lough Derg. Area: 3,147 km² (1,215 square miles). Its capital is the town of Ennis.


County Clare has a strong history of Traditional music. It is home of the Kilfenora Céilí Band, Stockton's Wing, Sharon Shannon, Eoin O'Neill, Eamon Cotter, Peadar O'Loughlin, Martin Hayes and legendary tin-whistle artist Micho Russell. Ennis in County Clare is also the birthplace of Grammy-nominated songstress Maura O'Connell whose grandmother started a fish market in the Town. The county has many traditional music festivals and one of the most well known is the Willie Clancy Summer School, which is held every July in the town of Miltown Malbay in memory of the renowned Uilleann piper, Willie Clancy. On the more contemporary music scene you have The Walls who are from Ennistymon.

Many Clare surnames are derived from the powerful septs that ruled over the area. Common surnames are O'Brien, McNamara, O'Grady, McInerney, Hickey, Griffin, Whelan, McMahan, Clancy and Considine. In addition many unusual surnames such as Talty, Lillis, O'Halloran, Minogue, Clune, Finucane, Ginnane, O'Davoren, McGann, McLysaght, and O'Loughlin can be found due to the isolated nature of the county.



Dunguaire Castle, Kinvara, County Clare

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Click on links in calendar and you can hear song selections from the artists And ALWAYS click the links below to get the latest updates on upcoming events

April 13 th IAS Pub Supper 5:30 start time	IAS Pub Supper – O’Toole’s, 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA (804-233-1781. Scheduled a bit earlier to make it easier for you to join us! http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com/
April 20th TIME 1:00 SATURDAY IAS Meeting Program Tuckahoe Library	Requested – Encore Presentation - To commemorate the 100 year Anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic –The meeting will focus on The Titanic and the Tragic Irish Connection If you missed it the first time.. – please join us for the encore presented in response to many requests. 
April 22nd IAS Board Meeting	IAS Board Meeting – 7 pm at O’Toole’s 4800 Forest Hill Ave, Richmond, VA 23225 Phone: (804) 233-1781 - ALL members are welcome at every meeting. http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com/

**2013 IRISH FESTIVALS ‘CLOSE’ TO RICHMOND -
CLICK ON THE LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

August 10	Ballyshanners Irish Festival	Alexandria, Virginia
August 13 th & 14 th	Charlotte Irish Summer Festival	Charlotte North Carolina
September 6 th – 8 th	Pittsburgh Irish Festival	Pittsburgh PA
September 29 th	Raleigh Irish Fest	Raleigh North Carolina
November 9 th – 11 th	Irish Festival in Baltimore	Baltimore Maryland

IAS OFFICERS & BOARD

President	Vacant		
Acting President, Vice-President & Programs Chair	Dan Begley	804-740-5631	begley55@hotmail.com
Secretary & Sunshine	Ann McGehee	540-894-7284	Anniev67@juno.com
Treasurer	Kathryn O’Meara	804-745-1903	Mungojerrie23@aol.com
Board Member & Membership	Denis Maguire	804-739-0429	maguired@comcast.net
Board Member/Special Events	Karon Bell	804-982-7835	Irishmom1958@gmail.com
Board, Email/Newsletter	Nancy Emig	804-323-6415	bearfan46@verizon.net
Board Member	Frank Hardy	804-883-6230	fenway7@msn.com
Board Member	Vacant		
Pub Master	Jim Mahone	804-387-8124	jim.mahone@comcast.net



Why Yes! – We are looking for your help in filling those empty spots on the IAS Board! Do you have a little time you could spare? If, so Please Call Dan Begley!!! He is the guy wearing the most hats these days.



RICHMOND IRISH AMERICAN SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

www.richmondias.org

Name _____ Date _____
 (If Family or Dual Membership - please include all names)

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Membership Fees: Single \$20 _____ Dual (2 adults – same address) \$25 _____

Family \$30 _____ Contributing \$35 or over _____

Please fill in these sections

<p>Are you a Native of Ireland? _____</p> <p>If so, What County? Counties _____ _____</p> <p>If Irish/American - What is your county or counties of ancestry _____ _____</p> <p>Do you have any skills or talents you wish to share? (Circle) (Legal, Financial, Computer, Dance, Musical, Other _____</p>	<p>What types of Educational Programs would you like to see presented by the IAS:</p> <p>Irish Music/Dance _____</p> <p>Drama/Storytelling _____</p> <p>Irish History/Politics _____</p> <p>Specific Topic _____</p> <p>Genealogy _____</p> <p>Irish Language _____</p> <p>Travel in Ireland _____</p> <p>Irish Music/Dance _____</p> <p>Other Topics _____</p>	<p>CAN YOU HELP WITH ANY???</p> <p>I am interested in volunteering to work in the following areas.</p> <p>Special Events _____</p> <p>Cultural Programs _____</p> <p>Fund Raising _____</p> <p>Membership/Marketing _____</p> <p>Board of Directors _____</p> <p>Public Relations _____</p> <p>Hospitality _____</p> <p>Email Notices _____</p> <p>Newsletter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising _____ • Contributing Writer _____
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Please fill out this form and send your check made **payable to the Irish American Society** to

<p>Denis Maguire – Membership Chairman 14008 Summercliff Trail Chesterfield, VA 23832 804-739-0429 maguired@comcast.net</p>	<p>The Irish American Society of Greater Richmond is a non-profit, non-stock corporation whose mission is to promote Irish culture and heritage through educational and public forums. This organization is non-sectarian, non-political and is open to any person regardless of race, color or religion</p>
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